(e) The talks centred round the prevailing international situation and bilateral relations. An agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation was signed between India and Qatar.

Communal Riots in the Country

1150. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Communal riots which took place in the country during the period from the 1st January to the 30th June, 1984 indicating their dates, places of occurence, the number of persons killed and value of property damaged; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to prevent this menace of communal riots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Communal riots took place in Maharashtra (Bombay, Bhiwandi, Thane and Kalyan) during 17th May, 1984 (Sporadic incidents continued till end of May and again from 20th June to end of June), Karnataka (Banglore, Dharwar-Hubli) during 10|11th March, 4th May and 24/25th June respectively and West Bengal (Kidderpore) on 17th March, 1984.

In these riots a total of 302 persons were killed and property worth approximately Rs. 826.23 lakhs were damaged/lost.

(b) The necessity of maintaining peace and communal harmony has time and again been stressed on the State Governments. Suggestions have been made to them to streamline the administrative and intelligence machinery and for measures like arrests of anti-social elements, search and seizure for the recovery of arms and ammunition and action against elements inciting communalism. It has been also suggested to some of the States that they may undertake indepth study of the causes for communal incidents in communally sensitive areas. Central forces are made available to the States as and when the request for the same are made.

पंजाब में व्याप्त स्थिति के प्रति अमरीकी कांग्रेस के सदस्यों द्वारा दिखाई गई दिलचस्पी

1151. **श्री सत्यपाल मलिक :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस तथ्य की जानकारी है कि अमरीकी कांग्रेस के अग्रणी सदस्य पंजाब की मौजूदा स्थिति के बारे में गहरी दिलचस्पी ले रहे है और वे सिक्ख आंदोलन के अमरीका स्थित नेताओं के साथ निरन्तर सम्पर्क बनाये हुये है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ए० ए० रहीम) : (क) और (ख) भारत सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि अमरीका आस्थानी खालिस्तान समर्थक कुछ सिक्ख, अमरीकी कांग्रेस के कतिपय सदस्यों के साथ सम्पर्क बनाये हुये हैं। सरकार को यह भी मालूम है कि पहले तथाकथित खालिस्तान आन्दोलन के एक नेता की अमरीका यात्रा, अमरीकी कांग्रेस के एक सदस्य द्वारा प्रायोजित की गई थी। भारत सरकार ने इस बारे में अपनी चिन्ता और कड़े विरोध की सूचना से अमरीका सरकार को अवगत करा दिया है।

Meeting in Dhaka of U.S. Envoys of South Asia

1152. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. envoys in South Asia recently met in Dhaka and decided to (i) forge strong military links between Bangladesh and Pakistan; (ii) bring the Bay of Bengal completely under U.S. navy with Chittagong as U.S. base and (iii) coordinate with Israel commandos in Sri Lanka; and